

Camping Rules & Regulations

THANK YOU for choosing Lake Metroparks for your camping experience. To ensure both a quality and safe experience, please review the following rules and regulations:

- Maximum capacity at each site is eight.
- Maximum number of cars per camping site is two.
- Set up begins at 3 pm or later with tear down no later than noon on the day of departure.
- All tents must be placed within 50 feet of campsite amenities.
- Noise curfew is 10 pm. Noise must be kept at a level that cannot be heard by surrounding neighbors. Guests must remain within 150 feet of the camping area after 11 pm.
- Gate should remain closed, but not locked, at all times while camping, where applicable.
- Respect other visitors and the natural resources around you. If you bring pets, please keep them quiet and on-leash and under control at all times. Horses are not permitted.
- Deposit solid human waste in small pits (called catholes). Select an inconspicuous site untraveled by people, at least 200 feet from water, camp and trails. Dig a hole six to eight inches deep (a garden trowel works well). Cover with original dirt and disguise the hole with native materials. Note: Self contained portable toilets are encouraged and permitted; all waste must be removed from the park and properly disposed of.
- Urine does not hurt plants and soil directly. Sometimes, the salt in urine may attract wildlife. Animals can defoliate plants and dig up soil to get at the salts. It is best to urinate on rocks and in places that will not attract wildlife.
- Wash yourself, your dishes and your clothes using a container. Washing in a spring, lake or waterway is prohibited. Dispose of waste water at least 200 feet from water resources.

- Do not bring firewood into the park. Park staff will make every effort to provide firewood but cannot guarantee its availability.
- Only downed and dead wood within the immediate campsite area may be gathered for firewood. Collect only the amount needed for your stay.
- Small campfires for cooking and warming purposes are permitted and must be contained within the fire ring provided. Never leave a fire unattended; put your fire out cold and leave fire ring intact.
- Use of camp stoves for cooking is encouraged.
- Please follow swimming regulations as posted.
- Please do not feed wildlife.
- Please remove any trace of camping. A garbage can is not provided at most campsites, therefore “pack in, pack out.”
- Campers are encouraged to bring a mobile phone.
- Call 911 in an emergency. For Lake Metroparks Ranger dispatch call 440-354-3434.
- All park rules apply (see goto.lakemetroparks.com/park-rules).

Please practice “Leave No Trace” outdoor ethics

1. Plan Ahead and Prepare
2. Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces
3. Dispose of Waste Properly
4. Leave What You Find
5. Minimize Campfire Impacts
6. Respect Wildlife
7. Be Considerate of Other Visitors

The member-driven Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics teaches people how to enjoy the outdoors responsibly. This copyrighted information has been reprinted with permission from the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics: www.LNT.org.

TENT CAMPING at Lake Metroparks

Baker Road Park
Girdled Road Reservation
Hidden Lake
Lake Erie Bluffs—Lane Rd.
Lakeshore Reservation
Penitentiary Glen Reservation
River Road Park
Riverview Park



Lake Erie Bluffs



Planning your camping trip

Lake Metroparks offers tent camping opportunities in seven parks so campers may experience unique natural features and the great outdoors. Campers are “on their own” and should be prepared to take care of themselves and the environment. Limited amenities are provided: a picnic table, a grill and a fire ring. Please note that water, electricity and restrooms are only available if noted below.

Campsite Descriptions

Baker Road Park

This riverside site is located in Leroy Township. It is designed to be a canoe-in, canoe-out site accessible via the Grand River four miles downstream from Hidden Valley Park in Madison. It is possible to hike ½ mile to the campsite from the parking lot. This is an extremely remote site and restroom facilities are not available. This site is only usable when the river level is below four feet.

Girdled Road Reservation

This creekside site is located along the Buckeye Trail and Big Creek in Concord Township. This is a perfect site for training for long distance backpacking trips. Reserved parking is provided on Concord-Hambden Rd. (S.R. 608) approximately ½ mile from the campsite. Restrooms are not available. This site is available year-round. Ski-in, ski-out winter camping in the snow is available.

Hidden Lake

This lakeside site is located on the secluded eight-acre Hidden Lake in Leroy Township. The site is located ½ mile from the parking area next to the lake, making it a perfect location for fishing late into the night and early the next morning. There is a restroom ½ mile from the campsite.

Lake Erie Bluffs (A and B)

These secluded, wooded campsites feature cool lake breezes located on the edge of the bluff and private panoramic views of Lake Erie, complete with a beautiful sunset. Explore a nearly two-mile stretch of natural beach and enjoy world class

birding. Campsite A is a ¼-mile westerly walk off the Shoreline Trail. Campsite B is a .65-mile westerly walk off the Bluff Loop Trail, accessed off of the Shoreline Trail. Both campsites are accessed from the Lane Rd. parking lot. Flush restrooms are located in the shelter and are accessible from the outside.

Lakeshore Reservation

This campsite sits along a ridge overlooking Lake Erie in North Perry Village. Enjoy quality birding in May, August and September and look for bald eagles year-round. Flush restrooms are about ¼ mile away. Parking for the site is located along a separate drive within the park and is a short walk from the campsite.

Penitentiary Glen Reservation

This cozy campsite is nestled near the rim of the gorge. The site is just a short walk from the nearby designated parking space northwest of Penitentiary Glen Nature Center. The public flush restrooms and a drinking fountain are located at the nature center about one mile from the site along the Rabbit Run Loop Trail. The nature center closes each day at 5 pm but the exterior entrance to the restrooms remain open.

River Road Park

This woodland site is located in the remote limited-access River Road Park in Madison Township. The site is situated high on a bluff above the Grand River and next to a pristine wetland. Parking for the site is located on the park’s service drive and requires a ¼-mile hike. This site is available May 1 until Labor Day. Restroom facilities are not available.

Riverview Park

This riverside site is accessible on foot or by canoe along the Grand River. Located at the end of Bailey Rd. in Madison Township, you can park your car 50 yards away from the campsite, or paddle 8½ miles from Harpersfield Covered Bridge Metropark. It is a perfect midway point for paddling the 16-mile stretch of the Grand River from Harpersfield to Mason’s Landing Park. This site is only usable when the river level is below four feet. A restroom is available about a ¼ mile hike from the campsite.



Penitentiary Glen Reservation

Reservation procedure & information

- Tent camping sites must be reserved.
- Tent camping sites are available May 1 through November 30 unless otherwise noted.
- Reservations are available online 24/7 at lakemetroparks.com or by contacting the Lake Metroparks Registration Department, Monday through Friday from 8 am to 4:30 pm.
- Reservations can be made up to 3 pm one day prior to arrival.
- There is a limit of three outstanding permits at one time with a three-night limit on each reservation.
- The renter must be 21 years of age or older.
- Sites are \$10 per night for Lake County residents; \$20 per night for out-of-county visitors.

Organized group camping sites (for scouts and youth groups) are available year-round; call 440-358-7275 for information.

Lake Metroparks Registration Department

11211 Spear Rd., Concord Twp., Ohio 44077

Monday through Friday • 8 am to 4:30 pm

440-358-7275 or 800-669-9226

Call for more information or visit:

LAKEMETROPARKS.COM